



# THIRUVUTHSAVAM

## PALLI BAGHAVATHY TEMPLE NEELAMPEROOR



### LOCATION

Panchayat/  
Municipality/  
Corporation

Neelamperoor Panchayat

District

Alappuzha



### ACCESSIBILITY

Nearest Town/  
Landmark/ Junction

Cooperative Bank - 89m

Nearest Bus Station

Kurichy Outpost Junction- 3.5 Km

Nearest Railway  
Station

Changanassery Railway Station – 10 Km

Nearest Airport

Cochin International Airport – 101 Km



### CONTACT

Palli Bhagavathy Temple  
Neelamperoor, Alappuzha, Kerala 686101  
Phone: 9446460213



**TIME**

**DATES**

March - April

**FREQUENCY**

Annual

**DURATION**

10 Days

**ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)**

Neelamperoor Pally Bhagavathi Temple has a history of about 1700 years and it is one of the few relics of the Buddhist culture. Neelamperoor Pally Bhagavathi Temple was built at a time (between AD 250 and 300) when Buddhism was at heyday of its prosperity. It is said that Banavarma, otherwise known as Cheramanperumal, who was the sole emperor of Kerala, had become a Buddhist monk and spent his last days at Neelamperoor. While he was the ruler of Kerala, Hindus accused him of having favored Buddhism; they even refused to co-operate with him. As matters came to a head, he agreed to conduct a debate about Hinduism and Buddhism. If Buddhists won the debate Hindus had to accept Buddhism. If they failed, the king agreed to abdicate the throne. Accordingly scholars of both religions participated in the contest. Hindus arranged six eminent scholars from south India to argue their case. The Buddhists lost the case. There upon Cheramanperumal abdicated the throne and left the palace as a Buddhist monk. Thus he came to Neelamperoor and built a Buddha Vihara. The festival is conducted to celebrate the divine presence of the deity in the temple.



**RELEVANCE-**  
(Local / National / International)

Local



**NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED**

Around 15000

## EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Flag Hoisting  
*Utsavabali*  
*Pallivetta*  
*Arattu*  
Cultural Programs  
Temple Arts  
Folk Arts  
*Chenda Melam*  
*Desa Thalapoli*

## DESCRIPTION (How festival is celebrated)

The festival starts with ritualistic flag hoisting ceremony. *Utsavabali*, *Pallivetta*, *Sopanathinkal Kottipadi Seva*, *Keli at Arattukadavu* and *Arattu* are the major attractions of the festival. Cultural Programs, Temple Arts and Folk arts are staged during the festival. The cultural programs and temple arts include events such as Classical dances, Devotional Music Programs, Jugal Bandi, Kathakali etc. are held there. *Chenda Melam* and *Desa Thalapoli* attracts large number of devotees.

